



Florida House of Representatives

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HOUSE PASSES BILL TO DESIGNATE TAMPA ROAD IN HONOR OF LOCAL IRAQI WAR HERO

TALLAHASSEE -- The House today unanimously passed a bill co-sponsored by State Representative Faye Culp (R-Tampa) to designate the access road between Gandy Boulevard and the Friendship Trail Bridge in Tampa adjacent to the Marine training facility as the "Andrew J. Aviles Trail" and to fund suitable markers.

"Lance Corporal Aviles was an exemplary son, student, and soldier," said Rep. Culp today. "His sacrifice for our country will be forever memorialized in the Andrew J. Aviles Trail."

Lance Corporal Andrew J. Aviles was killed in action in Iraq on April 7, 2003, while securing a bridge during Operation Iraqi Freedom. He was laid to rest on June 19, 2003 in Arlington National Cemetery with full military honors. He delayed accepting a full scholarship to Florida State University in order to answer the call to duty with the Marine Corps after graduating T.R. Robinson High School, where he was student body president and National Honor Society Member, in 2002.

The City of Tampa passed a resolution on March 4, 2004, urging the legislature to make the road designation in honor of Lance Corporal Aviles.

House Bill (HB) 9 also included other road designations and funding for appropriate signage across the state in honor of other law enforcement and military personnel killed in the line of duty.

HB 9 will now move to the Senate for consideration.

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